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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 4816**
Hiroomi TORII et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2006_0360A
Serial No. 10/572,948 : Group Art Unit 3723
Filed March 21, 2006 : Examiner Dung V. Nguyen
POLISHING APPARATUS :

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 31, 2007, Applicants hereby request reconsideration of the rejections contained in the Office Action.

The Examiner rejected claims 31 and 32 as being clearly anticipated by Yilmaz et al., U.S. 7,044,832 (Yilmaz). Claims 33-51 were rejected as being unpatentable over Yilmaz in further view of Perlov.

The Examiner noted that Applicants cannot rely on the foreign priority papers in order to overcome the rejection because a translation of the papers has not yet been made of record in the application. Accordingly, accompanying this Request is a verified translation of the Japanese priority document. It is respectfully submitted that the translation fully supports the claims pending in the present application. For example, a direct comparison of the figures establishes that they are substantially the same.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that they are entitled to an effective application filing date of October 17, 2003, the filing date of the Japanese priority application No. 2003-358593. This date is before the publication date of the Yilmaz patent, the publication

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TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975**

date of the Yilmaz application publication, the filing date of the Yilmaz application, as well as the filing date of the provisional application to which Yilmaz claims priority.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Yilmaz may not be used as a reference against the claims of the present application. Withdrawal of the rejection of October 31, 2007 and allowance of the application as a whole is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and the Examiner is requested to pass the case to issue. If the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroomi TORII et al.

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